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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Poland/Germany (Federal Republic)

SUBJECT Rumors of Rapprochement Between Anti-Communist Poles and West Germans

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1. In the summer of 1953 it was rumored among political refugees in the West that certain Polish emigrant groups were realizing that they could not indefinitely maintain their antagonistic attitude toward both the Soviets and West Germany, and that they therefore had contacted West German political groups, to try to find basis for a German-Polish compromise. Source, a Hungarian politician with old time intimate contacts with various Polish emigrant groups has definitely established that although some such contacts were actually made last summer, nothing worthwhile has come of them, since there are no Polish political groups, parties, or associations which would be willing to yield to the German demand concerning revision of the present Oder-Neisse frontier.

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2. The only positive fact which [redacted] could establish concerning an attempt at a Polish-German compromise is the following: a young, progressive, Roman Catholic Polish group, all of them members of the International Christian Democratic Union, have contacted, in West Germany, Bolko von Richthofen, known to be friendly to the Poles. Then, through von Richthofen, West German Catholics, members of Adenauer's party, tried to establish how much influence these young Poles had and whether they could be considered as partners in unofficial negotiations. The Polish emigrant press found out, however, about this attempted rapprochement, and reacted very vehemently, demanding that these Poles declare in whose name they dared to speak. Thereupon these well-meaning young Poles, inexperienced in political affairs, (according to London information) denied the intentions they had been accused of and the contacts which they had made and their attempt thus came to a rapid end.

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